



# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 29, 2007**

**Contact: Nicole Winger**  
**(916) 653-6575**

### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

#### **Secretary of State Debra Bowen's New Working Group to Evaluate Post-Election Audit Standards, Hold First Public Forum**

**WHAT:**

Secretary of State Debra Bowen's newly established Post-Election Audit Standards Working Group will hold its first public forum to gather public comments and expert testimony as part of its review of post-election audit procedures in California.

While many states have no obligation to manually audit election results, California law requires counties to conduct a manual tally of 1% of the precincts following each election. Congress is currently considering legislation to set a national standard that could require higher percentages of election results to be audited in a post-election hand count.

Over the next four weeks, the Post-Election Audit Standards Working Group will review a variety of post-election audit models and consider the advantages and disadvantages of various models and procedures. The group will report to Secretary Bowen the options for developing and implementing additional auditing requirements that could enhance the reliability of election outcomes, as well as suggested guidelines for reconciling manual audit and machine count results.

Working group members include: David Jefferson of the Center for Applied Scientific Computing at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (Chairperson); California Voter Foundation President and Founder Kim Alexander; Marin County Registrar of Voters Elaine Ginnold; Certified Public Accountant Amy Lehmkuhl; Downey City Clerk Kathleen Midstokke; and UC Berkeley Professor of Statistics Philip Stark.

**WHEN:**

Monday, July 2, 2007  
11:00 a.m.

**WHERE:**

Secretary of State's Auditorium  
1500 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento

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